IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Docket No. 32265-RCE STOUT, Robert L. Customer No.: 23589

 Serial No.: 10/051,253
 Group Art Unit No. 1648

 Filed: January 18, 2002
 Confirmation No.: 7968

METHODS OF DETERMINING CHRONIC Examiner: HORNING, Michelle HEPATITIS C INFECTION

TELETITIS CINI ECHON

Assistant Commissioner of Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Applicants, through their attorneys, hereby petition under 37 C.F.R. 1.136(a) for a threemonth extension of time in which to file a response to office action of August 25, 2006. Please charge Deposit Account No. 19-0522 in the amount of \$525.00 for the three-month fee.

In the event that the foregoing request or fee calculation is incorrect, this Petition should be construed as one for sufficient time to permit timely filing of the present reply. Any additional fee which is due in connection with this Petition should be applied against our Deposit Account No. 19-0522.

Respectfully submitted,

HOVEY WILLIAMS LLP

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ATTORNEY(S) FOR APPLICANT(S)